

Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act

16 U.S.C. §§668-668d

The knowing or wanton **possession, taking, or trade** of a bald or golden eagle or eagle part is a **criminal offense**, and any other unauthorized taking or trade is subject to **civil penalty**. [16 U.S.C. §668] A federal agency may cancel immediately a lease or permit that authorizes a person convicted of a violation of the Act to graze domestic livestock on federal lands. [16 U.S.C. §668(c)]

The Act defines “taking” to include pursuing,

wounding, killing, capturing, molesting, or disturbing. [16 U.S.C. §668c]

The Secretary of the Interior may issue **permits** for the taking, possession, and transportation of bald and golden eagles for scientific, religious, conservation, or agricultural purposes. [16 U.S.C. §668a]

The Act authorizes **searches, seizures** of eagles or personal property, and **arrests** for enforcement purposes. The Secretary may enter into cooperative enforcement agreements with states. [16 U.S.C. §668b]